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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/904,269	07/12/2001	Dennis L. Matthies	INTL-0571-US (P11416)	2029
21906	7590	11/17/2006	EXAMINER	
TROP PRUNER & HU, PC 1616 S. VOSS ROAD, SUITE 750 HOUSTON, TX 77057-2631			DONG, DALEI	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2879	

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/904,269

Applicant(s)

MATTHIES, DENNIS L.

Examiner

Dalei Dong

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. The Amendment filed on October 18, 2006, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2 and 4-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,855,637 to Yakou in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,914,150 to Porter.

Regarding to claim 1, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, a method comprising: temporarily flattening a sheet (1 or 2, with a vacuum chuck) by applying a flattening force to the center of the sheet (see Figure 4, and column 10, lines 7-23; where the locking pawl members holding the substrate down against the heating plate and thus a force is applied to the center of the sheet, the force applied at the corners of the sheet is transferred to the center of the sheet against the heating plate); processing the sheet while the sheet is held in a flattened configuration; and securing the sheet (1 or 2) to a second sheet (1 or 2) while continuing to hold the center of (holding the center of the sheet against the heating plate) the sheet (1 or 2) in a flattened configuration.

However, Yakou does not disclose applying row and column electrodes to the sheet.

Porter teaches in Figures 9 and 12, applying row and column electrodes to a sheet (see column 28, lines 37-48) for the purpose of efficiently controlling the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilize the row and column electrodes of Porter for the flat-panel display of Yakou in order to efficiently control the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Regarding to claim 2, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, temporarily flattening the sheet (1 or 2) includes placing the sheet in a vacuum chuck and applying a vacuum to flatten the sheet.

Regarding to claim 4, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, applying a light emitting material to the sheet.

Regarding to claim 5, Porter discloses in Figures 9 and 12, applying a light emitting material to the sheet includes applying an organic light emitting material between the row and column electrodes, and the motivation to combine is the same as above.

Regarding to claim 6, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, processing the second sheet (1 or 2) in a flattened configuration.

Regarding to claim 7, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, the second sheet (1 or 2) in a chuck.

Regarding to claim 8, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, both the first and second sheets (1 and 2) in chucks and combining the sheets using the chucks.

Regarding to claim 9, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, securing the first and second sheets (1 and 2) to an integrator plate (4).

Regarding to claim 10, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, surface mounting the first and second sheets (1 and 2).

Regarding to claim 11, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, surface mounting the first and second sheets (1 and 2) in the chucks.

Regarding to claim 12, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, a method comprising: receiving a warped sheet; temporarily flattening a sheet (1 or 2, with a vacuum chuck) for processing by applying a flattening force to the center of the sheet (see Figure 4, and column 10, lines 7-23; where the locking pawl members holding the substrate down against the heating plate and thus a force is applied to the center of the

sheet, the force applied at the corners of the sheet is transferred to the center of the sheet against the heating plate); processing the center flattened, and securing the center flattened (holding the center of the sheet against the heating plate), warped sheet to a planar surface.

However, Yakou does not disclose applying row and column electrodes to the sheet.

Porter teaches in Figures 9 and 12, applying row and column electrodes to a sheet (see column 28, lines 37-48) for the purpose of efficiently controlling the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilize the row and column electrodes of Porter for the flat-panel display of Yakou in order to efficiently control the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Regarding to claim 13, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, securing the flattened sheet (1 or 2) to a second sheet while continuing to hold the flattened sheet in a flattened configuration.

Regarding to claim 14, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, temporarily flattening the sheet (1 or 2) includes placing the sheet in a vacuum chuck and applying a vacuum to flatten the sheet.

Regarding to claim 15, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, securing the flattened sheets (1 and 2) to rigid, planar integrating plate (4).

Regarding to claim 16, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, a method comprising: temporarily flattening a ceramic sheet (1 or 2, with a vacuum chuck) by applying a flattening force to the center of the sheet (see Figure 4, and column 10, lines 7-23; where the locking pawl members holding the substrate down against the heating plate and thus a force is applied to the center of the sheet, the force applied at the corners of the sheet is transferred to the center of the sheet against the heating plate); processing the glass panel while the sheet is held in a flattened configuration; and securing the sheet (1 or 2) to the glass panel (1 or 2) while continuing to hold the center of the sheet (1 or 2) in a flattened configuration.

However, Yakou does not disclose applying row and column electrodes to the sheet.

Porter teaches in Figures 9 and 12, applying row and column electrodes to a sheet (see column 28, lines 37-48) for the purpose of efficiently controlling the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilize the row and column electrodes of Porter for the flat-panel display of Yakou in order to efficiently control the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Regarding to claim 17, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, securing the flattened sheets (1 and 2) to rigid, planar integrating plate (4).

Regarding to claim 18, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, temporarily flattening the ceramic sheet by placing the sheet in a vacuum chuck and applying a vacuum to flatten the sheet.

Regarding to claim 19, Porter discloses in Figures 9 and 12, applying an organic light emitting material between the row and column electrodes, and the motivation to combine is the same as above.

Regarding to claim 20, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, processing both the sheet and the panel in chucks and combining the sheet and panel using the chucks.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments filed October 18, 2006, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to Applicant's argument that the Yakou reference fails to teach or suggest applying a flattening force to the center of the sheet, the Examiner respectfully disagree. The Examiner asserts that the Yakou reference teaches applying a flattening force to the center of the sheet, see Figure 4, and column 10, lines 7-23; where the



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locking pawl members holding the substrate down against the heating plate and thus a force is applied to the center of the sheet, the force applied at the corners of the sheet is transferred to the center of the sheet and holding the center of the sheet against the heating plate. Thus, the Examiner asserts that the prior art of record teaches the claimed invention and maintains the rejection.

Furthermore, Yakou reference clear discloses in Figure 2, that securing the sheet to a second sheet while continuing to hold the center of the sheet in a flattened configuration and the thus the Examiner asserts that the prior art of record teaches the claimed invention and maintains the rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalei Dong whose telephone number is (571)272-2370. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 A.M. to 5 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar Patel can be reached on (571)272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

D.D.

November 8, 2006

*K. Guharay*  
Karabi Guharay  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2879  
11/9/06